

COOPERATIVE ECONOMIC INSECT REPORT

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WHEAT INSECTS

ARMYWORM: The most severe damage seemed to be in Southcentral Kansas. One field in Neosho County, Southeast Kansas, had moderate damage but most of the worms have apparently pupated. Several fields checked in Southeast Kansas had moderate numbers of worms with fungus. Some were in the heads while the majority were on the ground.

ENGLISH GRAIN APHID: Light numbers were found in all wheat fields checked in Southeast Kansas. Large numbers of lady beetles were present in all of the fields checked.

GREENBUGS: Numbers remain very low. The most found was 10 per row foot in Rush County.

CHINCH BUGS: Found in low numbers in one field in Morris County.

CEREAL LEAF BEETLE: None have been found in surveys so far.

BIRD CHERRY-OAT APHID: Ranged from 20-30 per row foot in Ellis and Mitchell Counties.

HORTICULTURAL INSECTS

BAGWORMS: Small larvae are now present.

NEW YORK WEEVIL: Found for the first time in Kansas on 7 May. The single specimen was taken in canopy trap set in oak woods in Cherokee County.

JAPANESE BEETLE: None were found in soil samples taken from rootballs.

MISCELLANEOUS

GULF COAST TICK: Recently found in Saline County. This is a new county record.

BIOCONTROL

During the week of 14 May a trip was made to Kalamazoo, Michigan to collect Japanese beetle grubs that were infected with the protozoan, *Ovavesicula popilliae*. Over 1,000 grubs were collected and these were released on 18 May at four sites in Northeast Kansas. Preliminary studies have shown that this parasite which is now widespread in the

northeastern states has good potential for greatly reducing beetle populations. The parasite is only known to infect Japanese beetles. It will take several years before a substantial reduction in the current populations in Kansas will be realized. While in Michigan training was received on how to dissect grubs in order to determine, in the future, the rate of infection.

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